

=THE BODY OF JESUS=

Lesson 9

The Body and Clothing of Jesus

INTRODUCTION: One of the most controversial subjects of our day is the matter of clothing. Let us see what Jesus has to say about the subject of our clothing and His clothing.

- I. JESUS WAS CLOTHED, Revelation 1:13. These are days when people are trying to convince us of the removal of clothing in order that a man may free himself of any inhibitions, etc. However, our Lord Himself was properly clothed while He lived on earth.
- II. WHEN JESUS COMES AGAIN, HE WILL YET BE CLOTHED. It is very interesting that Adam and Eve were unclothed in the Garden of Eden until they sinned. They got clothing when they realized they had sinned and they accepted the covering of God. However, in our glorified bodies we will have clothing. Jesus was clothed in His glorified body. He will be clothed when He comes again, Revelation 19:16. When we come back with Him to earth in our glorified bodies, we will be clothed, Revelation 19:14.
- III. AS A BABE, JESUS WAS CLOTHED IN SWADDLING CLOTHES, Luke 2:7, 12. “Swaddling” would be akin to our burlap. Even as an infant He was clothed. He was clothed in the clothing of the poor typifying the fact that “he who was rich” was becoming poor that we “through his poverty might be rich,” as we read in II Corinthians 8:9.
- IV. JESUS CARED FOR HIS CLOTHES, John 20:5-7. When He was resurrected from the grave, He came forth out of His graveclothes, but they were neatly folded and laid in the sepulchre. (This would be a good place, teacher, for you to teach the boys and girls proper care for their clothing. Teach them to keep their clothing pressed, shoes shined, clothes clean, clothes hung up properly, etc. This is very vital in training a child to have proper character.)
- V. JESUS CARES FOR OUR CLOTHES, Matthew 6:28-30. When we think of the “lily of the field,” we think about our lily—a beautiful and expensive flower. However, Jesus was talking about a common field flower. The lily of the field was as common in His day as the dandelion is in our day. It is as if He said, “Consider the dandelions. Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.” Jesus has promised to care for our adequate clothing and to provide our necessities.
- VI. GOD TEACHES THAT WOMEN ARE NOT TO MAKE CLOTHING THEIR MAIN ADORNMENT, I Peter 3:1-4. This does not mean that a woman is to be unclothed. It does mean that clothing is not to be the main thing. The spirit is to be the main thing. Notice also in this passage the mention of jewelry, etc. This passage does not teach it is wrong to wear jewelry any more than it is wrong to wear clothes. It does, however, teach that it is not to be the predominant thing. It is all right to wear jewelry that blends and adds to one’s general neatness. It is wrong for a person to become known by the jewelry he or she wears. Our clothing should be attractive, but not gaudy.
- VII. WOMEN ARE TO WEAR MODEST APPAREL, I Timothy 2:9. The only difference between a bad woman and a good woman in the Bible, as far as dress is concerned, was whether or not there was a slit up the side of the garment. If a woman’s thigh showed, she was considered a “bad” woman. This was the “attire of an harlot” mentioned in Proverbs 7:10. The way a woman could be distinguished as “good” or “bad” was according to whether or not her thigh showed. The bad women slit their dresses up the side so as to reveal the thigh while walking. The “good” woman covered their thighs. (Teacher, stress this to the young people! Teach the importance of young girls dressing properly. Warn them of the dangers of miniskirts, mixed bathing, wearing of shorts in public, etc. This is very vital, especially in the summer.)
- VIII. THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT MEN SHOULD NOT WEAR WOMEN’S CLOTHES AND WOMEN SHOULD NOT WEAR MEN’S CLOTHES, Deuteronomy 22:5. God wants the women feminine and the men masculine. He does not want the interchanging of the clothes. Since in our generation it has become acceptable that men wear trousers and ladies wear skirts, this would be the way God would want it to continue. When the women dress like men and the men dress like women, then God is not pleased.

(Teacher, stress very much here the importance of women not wearing slacks, men not wearing earrings, makeup, etc. Let us lead our boys to be men and our girls to be ladies!)

CONCLUSION: One of the most wicked perversions of Scripture these days is the one that uses I Samuel 16:7b, “For man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart,” to lead young people to believe that it does not matter what one wears or how he looks. This is not true! God does look on the heart, and man does look on the outside; but it is man whom we are trying to win, and it is God Whom we are trying to please. We should look like Christians, smell like Christians, dress like Christians, wear our hair like Christians, and in general, let the world know that we are Christians. This is pleasing to God.